

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/561,254  
Applicant(s): Hiroshi SEKINE and Makoto NAGASAWA  
For: UNIVERSAL JOINT  
Confirmation No.: 6492  
Customer No.: 26116  
Docket No.: 18733/00210  
Filed: December 19, 2005  
International Application No.: PCT/JP2004/007901  
International Filing Date: June 1, 2004  
Group Art Unit: 3682  
Examiner: James Pilkington

Attention: Refunds  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**REQUEST FOR REFUND**

The Applicants in the above-identified patent application hereby request a refund of \$1000.00 be credited to our deposit account. This application was filed on December 19, 2005. The original specification including a total of 54 claims (as computed based on the presence of multiple dependent claims); however, a preliminary amendment was filed at the same time which reduced the number of total claims to 34 (again, as computed based on the presence of multiple dependent claims). As indicated in the preliminary amendment, the amendment was to be entered prior to computation of claim fees. On the fee transmission form, notwithstanding the preliminary amendment, Applicants inadvertently indicated that 54 claims were present and computed a fee of \$1700.00 based on 54 claims. But, there were only 34 claims present and the amount of the fee was therefore overstated by \$1000.00. In other words, the amount owed to the

Patent and Trademark Office was actually only \$700.00, because there were only 14 claims in excess of the 20 claims covered by the base filing fee. At the time of this error, the fee for claims in excess of 20 was \$50.00 per claim. Because the number of claims was overstated by 20 claims, (34 claims versus 54 claims), the fee submitted was \$1000.00 too high (\$50.00 x 20 claims).

Accordingly, Applicants are submitting this present request for a refund for \$1000.00 to recover the amount incorrectly overstated.

Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a copy of the monthly statement for Deposit Account No. 18-1260. It is noted on the deposit account that on December 27, 2005, the Patent and Trademark Office debited said Deposit Account in the amount of \$1700.00 in connection with the serial number of the above-identified application. Also attached as Exhibit B is a copy of the Preliminary Amendment (referred to above) showing that the total number of claims after entry of the amendment is 34 claims remaining (as computed based on the presence of multiple dependent claims).

It is requested that the Patent and Trademark Office credit Deposit Account No. 18-1260 in the amount of \$1000.00, to correct the erroneous debit. Further, it is requested that the Patent and Trademark Office advise the undersigned in writing that such has been carried out.

If, in the resolution of this matter, further documents and/or evidence are required, it is requested that the Patent and Trademark Office personnel either call or write the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Thomas N. Tarnay/Reg. No. 41,341  
Thomas N. Tarnay  
Registration No. 41,341  
Attorney for Applicants

TNT:jds/llb  
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Dallas, Texas 75201  
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(214) 981-3400 Facsimile  
November 21, 2008



# United States Patent and Trademark Office

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## Deposit Account Statement

Requested Statement Month: December 2005  
 Deposit Account Number: 181260  
 Name: SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP  
 Attention: DOMESTIC DOCKETING  
 Street Address 1: 717 NORTH HARWOOD  
 Street Address 2: SUITE 3400  
 City: DALLAS  
 State: TX  
 Zip: 75201  
 Country: UNITED STATES

DATE	SEQ	POSTING REF TXT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NBR	FEE CODE	AMT	BAL
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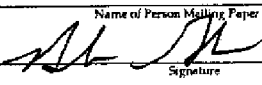
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.:	To Be Assigned
Applicant(s):	Hiroshi SEKINE and Makoto NAGASAWA
For:	UNIVERSAL JOINT
Confirmation No.:	To Be Assigned
Customer No.:	26116
Docket No.:	18733/00210
Filed:	Concurrently
International Application No.:	PCT/JP2004/007901
International Filing Date:	June 1, 2004
Group Art Unit:	To Be Assigned
Examiner:	To Be Assigned

MAIL STOP PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO.: EL 987031286 US DATE OF DEPOSIT: DECEMBER 19, 2005
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: MAIL STOP: PCT Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
DERRICK GORDON Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee
 Signature
DECEMBER 19, 2005 Date of Signature

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This preliminary amendment is being filed concurrently with the 35 U.S.C. §371 national stage filing of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/007901.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.

U. S. Patent Application No. (To Be Assigned)  
International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/007901  
Preliminary Amendment dated December 19, 2005  
Docket No. 18733/00210

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page one of the Specification and immediately before "TECHNICAL FIELD",  
please insert the following:

--Related Applications

This application is a National Stage of International Application No.  
PCT/JP2004/007901, filed June 1, 2004, which is based on Japanese  
Patent Application No. 2003-176248 filed with Japanese Patent Office on  
June 20, 2003, the entire content of which is incorporated herein by  
reference.--

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A universal joint, comprising:  
an input shaft;  
a pair of yoke arms provided for said input shaft;  
an output shaft;  
a pair of yoke arms provided for said output shaft;  
a cross member having four spider arms, each crossing another in a cross pattern;  
two bearings provided between the tip parts of two of said four spider arms, which are disposed oppositely to each other and two yoke arms of said input shaft; and  
two bearings provided between the tip parts of the rest two of said four spider arms, which are disposed oppositely to each other and two yoke arms of said output shaft,  
wherein said universal joint further includes a resistance applying mechanism that generates the maximum resistance load in an oscillating movement of each of said two spider arms when axes of said two spider arms are included in a plane that includes the axes of both of said input and output shafts.
2. (Original) A universal joint according to claim 1,  
wherein said resistance applying mechanism is configured so that at least one of said bearings has a resistance load that varies in accordance with an oscillating angle.
3. (Original) A universal joint according to claim 2,  
wherein said bearing used as said resistance applying mechanism is formed with a substantially oval yoke hole formed in said yoke arm and a substantially oval tip part of said spider arm.

4. (Original) A universal joint according to claim 3,  
wherein a bearing cup is press-fit in said substantially oval yoke hole formed in said yoke arm and a plurality of needles are provided between the inner surface of this bearing cup and said substantially oval tip part of said spider arm.
5. (Original) A universal joint according to claim 1,  
wherein said resistance applying mechanism is configured by a cam surface formed at an end surface of said spider arm and an engaging projection provided in said yoke arm and coming in contact with said cam surface.
6. (Original) A universal joint according to claim 5,  
wherein a bearing cut is press-fit in a circular yoke hole formed in said yoke arm and a plurality of needles are provided between the inner surface of said bearing cup and a circular tip part of said spider arm, and said engaging projection is formed at the bottom of said bearing cup.
7. (Original) A universal joint according to any of claims 1 to 6,  
wherein said resistance applying mechanism is provided at either of said input shaft side or output shaft side.
8. (Original) A universal joint according to any of claims 1 to 6,  
wherein said resistance applying mechanism is provided at both of said input shaft and output shaft sides.
9. (Currently Amended) A steering device for vehicle, wherein the universal joint according to any of claims 1 to ~~[[8]]~~ 6 is provided between a steering column and a steering mechanism at the side of vehicle body.
10. (Currently Amended) A universal joint assembly for vehicle,  
including two universal joints configured according to any of claims 1 to ~~[[8]]~~ 6  
and an intermediate shaft:  
wherein both of said two universal joints have crossing angles that are substantially equal; and



said intermediate shaft is connected to the output shaft of one of said universal joints and the ~~output~~ input shaft of the other.

11. (New) A steering device for vehicle, wherein the universal joint according to claim 7 is provided between a steering column and a steering mechanism at the side of vehicle body.
12. (New) A steering device for vehicle, wherein the universal joint according to claim 8 is provided between a steering column and a steering mechanism at the side of vehicle body.
13. (New) A universal joint assembly for vehicle according to claim 10,  
wherein said resistance applying mechanism for at least one of said two universal joints is provided at either of said input shaft side or output shaft side.
14. (New) A universal joint assembly for vehicle according to claim 10,  
wherein said resistance applying mechanism for at least one of said two universal joints is provided at both of said input shaft and output shaft sides.

U. S. Patent Application No. (To Be Assigned)  
International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/007901  
Preliminary Amendment dated December 19, 2005  
Docket No. 18733/00210

**REMARKS**

This preliminary amendment is being filed concurrently with the 35 U.S.C. §371 national stage filing of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/007901.

The amendment to page one of the Specification was added to show the claimed priority information.


Claims 1-10 were presented in the international application. New claims 11-14 have been added.

The filing fee for the utility application was calculated based on the status of the claims after entry of this Amendment. Accordingly, no additional fee based on the number or type of claims is incurred by this Amendment.

Any fee required by this document other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith, should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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December 19, 2005